

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 24 remain active in this application. The indication of allowability of the subject matter of claims 10 - 13 and 16 - 22 is noted with appreciation. The specification and claims have been reviewed and editorial revisions made where seen to be appropriate to improve form and antecedent language correspondence. Additionally, in the interest of clarity, the function of preserving the structure of the electronic media description has been added to several claims. Support for these amendments is found throughout the original specification and drawings and particularly in Figure 2 and at page 4, line 17. No new matter has been introduced into the application.

The Examiner has objected to claims 20 - 22 due to inconsistency of claim preambles. This objection is respectfully traversed as moot in view of the amendment to the preamble of claim 20 which adopts the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 16 - 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed as being incorrect, in part, and, insofar as correct, the rejection is traversed as being moot in view of the amendments to claims 16 and 17 made above.

The Examiner's comment concerning step (e) (3) is well-taken since step (a) recites a function performed in regard to type menu data objects while steps (b) to (f) are directed to type procedure data objects. Accordingly, the recursive performance of steps recited in step (e) has been amended to refer to steps (b) to (f). However, by the same token, the Examiner's comments regarding recitation of a reference to step (f) in step (e) is not an error for that reason alone. On the contrary, as illustrated in Figures 10A and 10B,

steps (e) and (f) represent different processing loops with the loop through 1045 to 1042 being performed for an "exited-to" procedure which may or may not have an exit. If the "exited-to" procedure does not have an exit, it may still have a decision causing branching to a data object which may or may not be a procedure, in which case step (a) is performed (looping from 1047 and 1048, respectively, to 1001), followed by steps (b) through (f). Therefore, recursive processing through step (f) is appropriate and properly recited in step (e).

Similarly, the Examiner's comments concerning step (g) are incorrect. Step (g) corresponds to the "later processing" applied to the links which are saved in step (d). This processing is well-illustrated in Figure 9 and is described at page 12, line 26 to page 13, line 2. Therefore, while this processing is not depicted in Figure 10B, as the Examiner correctly observes, the Examiner fails to recognize that the processing depicted in Figures 10A and 10B is a subset of the processing of Figure 9 and there is, in fact, no basis for asserting that "there is no step (g)" and reference to step (g) in step (h) is not incorrect, contrary to the Examiner's assertion. However, since the user may specify the scope of the extraction process including the processing of links to generate link files (page 10, line 15+ and Figure 5) the word "selectively" has been added to step (d) to indicate, in the interest of clarity and accuracy, that the saving of links and, hence, the processing of saved links of step (g) are optional.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that there is no basis for adhering to any portion of this ground of rejection since amendment has been made, where appropriate, and the Examiner's comments are otherwise clearly in error. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 - 9, 14 - 15 and 23 - 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Fleskes. This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed, particularly since the Examiner appears to ignore or give less than proper weight to some recitations of the claims, possibly due to inexact correspondence of antecedent language which has been clarified by amendments made above.

Fleskes is directed to facilitating the development of *custom* web pages which include data which may be obtained from a database or directly input by an administrator, such as for web-site development, by inserting data into a form or template whereas the invention is directed to the extraction of a portion of a hierarchical data structure forming an electronic media description, such as an interactive electronic technical manual (IETM), which may include a large number or complex network/web of internal cross-references at a large plurality of hierarchical levels and preserving that hierarchy and those internal cross-references while making portions of the electronic media description accessible as web pages by, in essence, wrapping HTML or the like network compatible language around the specific data elements retrieved from the DBMS to generate web compliant relatively addressed tags (providing, in the process, an *unexpected ten-fold improvement* in presentation speed (see page 19, line 30) as well as infrastructure independence).

Therefore, Fleskes does not, in fact, address the claim recitation of, for example, "connecting to a database structure having data having a hierarchy and defining an original electronic media description" (claim 1), "a DBMS with data defining an electronic media description ... and an extractor for extracting data from said DBMS and generating tagged data relative Web pages that can be exported and viewed by a

standalone computing device using a Web browser while preserving said content, links and hierarchy structure of said electronic media description" (claim 14), "comprising a plurality of web pages wherein a hierarchy of an electronic media database structure is preserved in said plurality of web pages by generating links between and among said tagged data relative Web pages which correspond to said original hierarchy of said original electronic media description contained in an electronic media database structure, ... and generating tagged data relative Web pages and preserving said hierarchy of said original electronic media description" (claim 23) or "comprising a plurality of tagged data relative web pages wherein a hierarchy of an electronic media database structure is preserved in said plurality of web pages by generating links between and among said tagged data relative web pages which correspond to said original hierarchy of said original electronic media description contained in an electronic media database structure, ... generating tagged data relative web pages and preserving said hierarchy of said original electronic media description" (claim 24). In other words, reference in Fleskes to retrieval and processing of data in a database does not teach or suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art much less enable processing which preserves the internal structure of an electronic media description.

In this regard, the passage cited by the Examiner does not reasonably imply definition of a media description, as asserted by the Examiner, or that the data in the database has a hierarchical structure, much less that the hierarchical structure can be automatically preserved during processing to form web pages. The passage lines 39 - 40 of column 9 merely refer to "information about a hierarchical organization and its members", giving the examples of "associations,

businesses, properties and their respective members" wherein the word "hierarchical" clearly refers to the organizations and not to any structure of the data. Similarly, the reference to master and detail pages in lines 42 - 47 of column 9 (which, in any case, is at most a single level of hierarchy) clearly refers to the output web pages and not to any structure of the data placed into templates in accordance with Fleskes. The remainder of the passage cited by the Examiner deals with access authorization and has nothing to do with any structure of the original data much less that the original data is in the nature of an electronic media description or any structure that it might have. On the contrary, while the web pages generated in accordance with Fleskes may contain links to other pages, at least column 3, lines 31 - 36, appear to indicate that such links are inserted by the user and no teaching or suggestion of automatic generation of links to preserve any structure of the original data (or even that the original data has a structure) is seen or pointed out by the Examiner.

Similarly, in regard to the Examiner's comments concerning a teaching or suggestion in Fleskes of a top level menu, the Examiner relies on the same passage of Fleskes discussed above and a passage from column 9, line 43, to column 10, line 11, discussing the master and detail pages. Again, it is respectfully submitted that the actual teachings and/or suggestions of these passages relate only to the output pages produced by Fleskes and not, in any way, to any structure of the original data, much less a data "structure" derived from or which represents an "electronic media description". Further, it is respectfully submitted that a master page and a detail page can represent only one level of a hierarchy, if a one-level hierarchy can be properly described as a hierarchy at all. Moreover, the master page is generated from a template and is not

a menu and particularly not a menu "of a structure" (which can interface with the DBMS to facilitate user browsing and specification of the scope of a desired extraction process by parsing of the selected menu structure, as claimed). The master page of Fleskes merely presents sub-items which, when selected, are displayed in a detail page.

In regard to the Examiner's observations regarding translating and binding of embedded tags, it is respectfully submitted that the observation is not probative of any issue of anticipation or obviousness of the claims. The Examiner does not indicate any claim recitation to which the observation may be relevant. Column 22, line 49, of Fleskes shows a static HTML tag embedded with special tags (e.g. WEBOBJECT) which is translated using a presentation framework. In sharp contrast, in accordance with the invention (which uses a relational database rather than an object-oriented database, evidently required by Fleskes), the electronic media description (e.g. IETM) is stored in the database free of tags and standard HTML tags are generated during the extraction process, as claimed (e.g. following menu structure parsing and selection to define the scope of the extraction process) to present the electronic media description/IETM in a browser. The invention is thus made independent of imbedded special tags and references in a web object declaration (WOD) file and does not require any binding of actions and values.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has ignored or glossed over numerous distinguishing features of the invention explicitly recited in the claims. Further, a number of these features are directly incompatible and/or inconsistent with features such as the derivation of a menu structure, the presentation of an electronic media description, the preservation of an existing

hierarchical structure, the avoidance of binding of special tags and values and the like which are required in Fleskes for Fleskes to function in the intended manner. Under the precedent of *In re Gordon*, 221 USPQ 1125 (Fed. Circ., 1984) a proposed modification which would preclude the reference apparatus or method from functioning in the intended manner is improper under 35 U.S.C. §103. Further, by failing to show by a clear and compelling line of reasoning how the reference answers the explicit recitations of the claims, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* demonstration of obviousness of any claim in the application.

The dependent claims are believed to be fully distinguished from Fleskes for the reasons discussed above in regard to the independent claims and also by reason of the respective recitations contained therein. For example, in regard to claim 2, the Examiner does not appear to appreciate the original hierarchy of the original media description. Within the original hierarchy, the data objects may be menus (distinct from the top level menu of, for example, claim 1), narratives, graphics, tables or procedures, each type of which may be linked to any other type of data object and which links may be an arbitrary number of layers deep. The ability to model such a structure to maintain such a hierarchy is entirely lacking in Fleskes. In regard to claims 3 and 4, the interoperability options are selectable to control the manner in which the extraction process automatically operates (e.g. to skip previously generated files, generate link files, replace existing files list graphic files or select graphic format and the like while Fleskes appears limited to a user reviewing data retrieved from a database to load new data, edit existing data or upload or download a file (e.g. standard MS Windows functions). As to claim 5, the

cited passage of Fleskes does not teach or suggest display of status of generating tagged relative web pages in real-time, as claimed. Regarding claims 6 - 8 (and 14 - 15), while Fleskes mentions standalone operation a database server and an internet server would still be required on a standalone machine whereas the web pages generated by the extraction process of the invention only require a browser for presentation since the web pages are exported to the standalone machine. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of the dependent claims is untenable, as well.

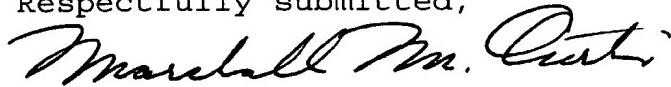
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the ground of rejection applied to claims 1 - 9, 14 - 15 and 23 - 24 are clearly in error and the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* demonstration of any claim in the application while failing to accord appropriate consideration to explicit recitations of the claims. Fleskes is very different from the invention, as claimed and does not provide (or even suggest provision of) the functions to which the invention is directed (e.g. preserving hierarchical structure of an original electronic media description while allowing presentation of pages of the electronic media description using a platform and infrastructure independent browser) or the unexpected effects of the invention (e.g. a ten-fold increase in presentation speed). Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the ground of rejection based on Fleskes is respectfully requested.

Since all rejections, objections and requirements contained in the outstanding official action have been fully answered and shown to be in error and/or inapplicable to the present claims, it is respectfully submitted that reconsideration is now in order under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.111(b) and such reconsideration is respectfully requested. Upon

reconsideration, it is also respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is therefore respectfully requested.

If an extension of time is required for this response to be considered as being timely filed, a conditional petition is hereby made for such extension of time. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041 (Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson).

Respectfully submitted,



Marshall M. Curtis
Reg. No. 33,138

Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P. C.
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340
Reston, Virginia 20190

Customer Number: 30743
(703) 787-9400